NEWARK MUSEUM

newarkmuseum.org



Bank of America

newark black film festival

06.29–08.03

2016

FREE ADMISSION

42 YEARS

of defining the independent film experience

A Part of Newark's History

As we celebrate Newark's 350th anniversary, we recognize that the Newark Black Film Festival, 42 years young, has itself become part of Newark's history. Let me take you down "memory road" to 1975, when Gus Heningburg, Founding President of the Greater Newark Urban Coalition, approached Sam Miller, Director of the Newark Museum, with an idea. A touring Black Film Festival had begun a year earlier, a project of Oliver Franklin, an enterprising graduate student at the Annenberg Center for Communication Art & Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. Heningburg and Miller agreed that a film series would be a meaningful, indeed central, addition to Newark summer activities. Miller deputized the Museum's indomitable program director, Marjorie Fredricks, to carry out the plan (at her retirement in 1980, Fredricks named the Festival as her most important legacy). When the touring festival ended in 1976, the Museum formed its own volunteer selection committee beginning with two individuals who were to become leading trustees and guiding lights, Gloria Hopkins Buck and Clement Alexander Price, as well as community partners: the Newark Public Library, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University-Newark, and Newark Symphony Hall, and for the past 15 years, Bank of America.

And the rest, as they say, is history... 42 years of free summer screenings at the Museum and partner venues, an internationally recognized forum for writers, directors, producers, performers and film patrons who enjoy African-American and African Diasporic cinema; a host to such luminaires s Gordon Parks, Paul Robeson, Jr., James Van Der Zee, James Earl Jones, Danny Glover, Reginald and Warington Hudlin, Ayoka Chenzira, Spike Lee, Pam Grier, Donald Bogle, Richard Wesley, Euzhan Palcy, Ava DuVernay and S. Epatha Merkerson; in short, the longest running and amongst the most admired festivals of its kind. And for the past 16 years, we have had the generous support of a true partner, Bank of America.

And that is how history is made, one screening, one engaged audience at a time. How proud we are to bring you another great season!

Mary Sue Sweeney Price
Volunteer Selection Committee Member
Director Emerita, Newark Museum

Bank of America

Bank of America is proud to sponsor the 42nd Newark Black Film Festival.

We believe that the arts are a powerful tool that can help economies thrive, promote cross-cultural understanding, encourage individuals to connect with each other and enrich one's quality of life. The Festival presents the richness of African-American and African culture through new, innovative filmmaking that stimulates conversations and inspires new ways of seeing our past, present and future. Since its founding in 1974, the Newark Black Film Festival has screened an impressive 841 films to more than 185,000 viewers.

This year's crop of festival films includes two documentaries about African-American women whose mastery of their art is unmatched. The legendary musician and civil rights activist Nina Simone, who lived in Newark for a time, is featured in "What Happened, Miss Simone?" The film draws on more than 100 hours of recordings, telling her story largely in her own words. Prima ballerina Misty Copeland is the subject of "A Ballerina's Tale" that looks at her development as dancer alongside themes of race and body image in the elite ballet world.

The festival will also screen Paul Robeson Award winners including New Jersey filmmakers such as Antoinette K. Ellis-Williams, whose "Lee Hagan: Connecting Generations" explores the life and legacy of scholar, activist and Newark resident Dr. Lee Hagan. These films are sure to provoke much thought and rich discussion.

The arts play a vital part in Newark's economic renaissance by providing jobs, stimulating tourism and revitalizing the downtown area. The 42nd Newark Black Film Festival is one of New Jersey's cultural gems and Bank of America is honored to present this important collection of cinema.

Robert H. Doherty, President
Bank of America – New Jersey

NBFF background art: Jerry Grant Design: Bambang Wiroto

ADULT CINEMA (Wednesdays)

June 29, 7 pm
Newark Museum

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE

What Happened, Miss Simone?



This vivid documentary examines the life of classically trained pianist Nina Simone, an American icon, singer and civil rights activist known as the "High Priestess of Soul." *2015, 101 mins.*

Speaker: **The Hon. Ras J. Baraka**, Mayor, City of Newark & **Leopoldo Fleming**, Miss Simone's percussionist
Hosts: **Gloria Hopkins Buck & Richard Wesley**

Opening Reception

5:30 pm: Reception at the Newark Museum, and viewing of the current exhibitions:

- *Modern Heroics: 75 Years of African-American Expressionism at the Newark Museum*
- *Newark: Maker City*

RSVP to 973.596.6550 or *rsvp@newarkmuseum.org*

Visit *newarkmuseum.org* for film details, speakers, hosts, and venue updates.

July 6, 7 pm
Newark Museum

FAMILY NIGHT IN THE GARDEN

The Watsons Go To Birmingham

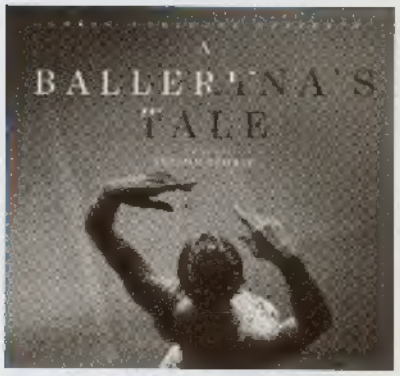


On a road trip from Flint, Michigan, to Birmingham, Alabama, the Watson's find their experiences along the way give them a newfound courage to stand up for what is right. This film for all ages is served up with a bag of Popcorn. *2013, PG, 86 mins.*

Speaker: **Deborah Smith-Gregory**, President, Newark NAACP
Host: **Malik Whitaker**, Director, City Without Walls

July 13, 7 pm
Newark Museum

ON POINTE



A Ballerina's Tale

This feature documentary on African-American ballerina Misty Copeland examines her rise and potentially career-ending injury, alongside themes of race and body image in the elite ballet world. *2015, 85 mins.*

Speaker: **Nelson George**, Filmmaker
Host: **Kenneth Gifford**, Director, Newark International Film Festival

July 20, 7 pm
Newark Museum

CELEBRATING NEWARK'S OWN

The Hon. Donald M. Payne, Sr.

Follow the life and legacy of a Newark son, and the first Black Congressman from NJ. *37 mins.*

Speakers: **The Hon. Donald M. Payne Jr.**, Congressman & **The Hon. William D. Payne**

Lee Hagan: Connecting Generations

Explore the life, philosophy and motivation of Dr. Frank Hagan at NJCU and as a Newark resident. *36 mins.*

Speaker: **Antoinette K. Ellis-Williams**

We Came & Stayed

Hear stories of families who migrated to the City of Newark from 1910 to 1970. *8:24 mins.*

Speaker: **Julie Winokur**

Hosts: **Mary Sue Sweeney Price** & **Junius Williams**

July 27, 7 pm
Newark Museum

DIASPORA

Ayanda

After tragedy strikes in this Johannesburg community, a young woman struggles to save her father's car repair shop along with her memory of him with love, humor, and triumph. *2015, 105 mins.*



Speaker: **Sara Blecher**, Writer/Director,
Host: **Donna Walker-Kuhne**, VP Community Engagement, NJPAC

August 3

PAUL ROBESON AWARDS

4:30 pm: Reception & Award Ceremony at the Newark Museum. RSVP to 973.596.6550 or *rsvp@newarkmuseum.org*

7:30 pm: Screenings at CityPlex 12 Newark

LONG DOCUMENTARY

Winner–Alice Walker: Beauty in Truth
Filmmaker/Director: Pratibha Parmar
Producer: Shaheen Haq; *83 mins.*

Honorable Mention–SEMBENE!
Filmmaker/Producer/Director: Samba Gadjigo & Jason Silverman; *2015, 87 mins.*

SHORT DOCUMENTARY

Winner–Lee Hagan: Connecting Generations
Filmmaker/Producer/Director: Antoinette K. Ellis-Williams; *2014, 36:18 mins.*

Honorable Mention–Harlem on My Plate
Filmmaker/Director/Producer: Rochelle Brown & Sonia Armstea; *2015, 26:11 mins.*

LONG NARRATIVE

Winner–Blue
Filmmaker/Producer: Don Wallace; *2016, 113:03 mins.*

Honorable Mention–Forever Yours
Filmmaker/Director: Patrick Ulysse;
Producer: Patrick Ulysse & JD Rose;
2016, 105 mins.

SHORT NARRATIVE

Winner–Video
Filmmaker/Director: Randy Yang;
Producer: Pamela Rook *2015, 15 mins.*

Honorable Mention–Moves We Make
Filmmaker: Nonstop Show Group;
Producer: Lamar Mackson; Director: E. Patric Coker *2016, 28 mins.*

Hosts: **Robert H. Doherty**, President, Bank of America–NJ; **Richard Wesley**, Screenwriter
Speakers: **Filmmakers**

YOUTH CINEMA (Mondays & Wednesdays)

Mondays (The Newark Public Library)
Wednesdays (Newark Museum)

Wednesday, July 6, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4–12

I Lost My Tooth in Africa
Young girl loses her tooth while visiting her father's family in Africa. *30 mins.*

Cliques, Phonies & Other Baloney
Animated film on how children can dare to be different. *30 mins.*

Tar Beach
Lying on her Harlem roof-top, Cassie's dreams takes you flying above the city. *30 mins.*

Monday, July 11, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 13, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4–12

Dancing in the Light: The Janet Collins Story
Inspiring story of the first African-American prima ballerina. *17 mins.*

Galimoto
Follow a young African boy using his wits to search for scraps of wire to make his own Galimoto (motorcar). *30 mins.*

The Hunterman and the Crocodile
Learn important lessons about living in harmony with nature. *10 mins.*

Monday, July 18, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 20, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Rated G

The Golden Blaze
Two young boy's schoolyard rivalry spirals out of control when their fathers develop superpowers. *87 mins.*



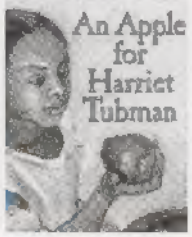
Monday, July 25, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 27, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4–12

Uncle Jed's Barbershop
Despite setbacks during the Great Depression of the 1930's, Uncle Jed saves enough money to buy his own barbershop—a wonderful lesson in saving, goals and opportunity. *30 mins.*

Global Wonders Around the World
Discover vibrant and varied cultures from around the neighborhood and the world. *36 mins.*



An Apple for Harriet Tubman
Learn about the life of Harriet Tubman's escape to Freedom, including the significance of apples. *12 mins.*

Monday, August 1, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, August 3, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Rated G

The Anansi Spider Collection
Four popular folktales about the master trickster that are full of energy, and slapstick humor. *47 mins.*

Robinita Hood
Join Robinita and the "Merry Chicas" in Sherwood Forest as they foil the dastardly plans of the evil "Sheriff de Jamon." *25 mins.*

Monday, August 8, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, August 10, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Rated G

Polly
Enjoy the enthusiasm and love of life of young orphan Polly who brings happiness and a sense of community to a 1950s Alabama town. *93 mins.*

FESTIVAL SUPPORT

The Newark Black Film Festival is made possible by

Bank of America

Co-presenters include The Newark Public Library; the Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers-Newark, and CityPlex 12 Newark.

The Festival is organized by the Newark Museum, located at 49 Washington Street in Newark's Downtown/Arts District.

All screenings are FREE TO THE PUBLIC. Seating is limited and available on a first-come basis. Once the theater is filled to capacity, additional seating cannot be provided. Group seating is limited to two groups of 25 for each screening. To reserve group seating, call 973.596.6550. Group seating will be held 15 minutes prior to screening.

SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gloria Hopkins Buck, LCSW
NBFF Chairperson & Founding Member

Dale E. Colston, Esq.
Principal Librarian
The Newark Public Library

Patricia Faison
Marketing Associate & NBFF Coordinator
Newark Museum

Jeff Friday
President
Film Life

LeRoy Henderson
Visual Artist/Photographer/Arts Educator

Steven Kern
Director & CEO
Newark Museum

Lisa Payne
Filmmaker

Mary Sue Sweeney Price
Director Emerita
Newark Museum

Jane W. Rappaport
Former NBFF Coordinator

Bobby Shepard
Director of Photography, Film/Video

Ralph R. Waller
Manager of Housing Production
Newark Housing Authority

Richard Wesley
Scriptwriter/Playwright

MEMBERS EMERITI

Mujahid C. Ali
Flora B. Baldwin
James Brown*
John Gregory Clemons
Oliver Franklin
Thomas C. Guy Jr.*
Gustav Heninburg*
Theodore Johnson, PhD*
Miriam Petty, PhD
Clement A. Price, PhD*

*Deceased

PAUL ROBESON AWARDS JUDGES

Barbara Allen
Associate Producer/
Filmmaker

Gloria Hopkins Buck
NBFF Chairperson &
Founding Member

Carlene Colston
Non-Profit Administrator

Dale E. Colston, Esq.
Principal Librarian

Frank R. Hooker
Filmmaker/Film Prof. at
Rutgers-Newark

Joyce Ann Judd
Educator & Visual
Performing Arts

Pam Morgan
Founder
Women in Media

Henrietta Parker
Filmmaker/Producer

Wanda Pendelton
Educator, Marketing
UbConnections LLC

Cheryl LuSane
Seton Hall University

Jameel B. Saxton
AV Production

Richard Wesley
Screenwriter/Educator

Derrick Williams
Director/Producer

SCREENING LOCATIONS

Newark Museum
49 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102
nbff@newarkmuseum.org
973.596.6550

The Newark Public Library
5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102
973.733.7797

CityPlex 12 Newark
360-394 Springfield Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103
Twitter: @cityplex12
973.642.5555

If you are interested in learning more about **film sources** or other programs at the Newark Museum, call 973.596.6550, or visit **newarkmuseum.org.**

The Newark Museum, a not-for-profit museum of art and science, receives operating support from the City of Newark, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Council on the Arts/Department of State — a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey Cultural Trust, the Prudential Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, the Wallace Foundation, The Estate of Gwendolin E. Stableford and other corporations, foundations and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.

Official Airline
UNITED

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Newark, NJ 07102-3176
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